

OFFICIAL DESPATCHES.

Battles of Contreras and Churubusco.
REPORT OF MAJOR GENERAL SCOTT.
(Duplicate.)

No. 31.
HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
San Augustin, Acapulco road,
9 miles from Mexico, Aug. 19, 1847.

Sir: Leaving a competent garrison in Puebla, this army advanced upon the capital, as follows: Twigg's division, preceded by Harney's brigade of cavalry, the 7th, Quitman's division of volunteers, with a small detachment of U. S. marines, the 8th, Worth's division, the 9th, and Pillow's division, the 10th—all in this month. On the 8th I overtook, and then continued with, the leading division. The corps were, at no time beyond five hours, or supporting distance, apart; and on descending into the basin of the capital (74 miles from Puebla) they became more closely approximated, about the head of lake Chalco, with lake Texcoco a little in front and on the right. On the 12th and 13th we pushed reconnaissance upon the Penon, an isolated mound (eight miles from Mexico) of great height, strongly fortified to the top (three tiers of works) and flooded round the base by the season of rains and shutes from the lakes. This mound, close to the national road, commands the principal approach to the city from the east. No doubt it might have been easily taken, but at a great and disproportionate loss, and I was anxious to spare the lives of this gallant army for a general battle which I knew we had to win before capturing the city, or obtaining the great object of the campaign—a just and honorable peace.

Another reconnaissance was directed (the 13th) upon Mexico, the left of the Penon, a village at a fortified bridge crossing the outlet or canal, leading from lake Jochimilco to the capital—five miles from the latter. It might have been easily (masking the Penon) to force the passage; but on the other side of the bridge, we should have found ourselves, four miles from this road, on a narrow causeway, flanked to the right and left by water or boggy ground. Those difficulties, closely viewed, showed us that the project, long entertained, of turning the strong eastern defenses of the city, by passing around south of lakes Chalco and Jochimilco, at the foot of the hills and mountains, so as to reach this point, and hence to maneuver, on hard ground, though much broken, to the south and southwest of the capital, which has been more and less under our view since the 10th instant.

Accordingly, by a sudden diversion, Worth's division, with Harney's cavalry brigade, leaving—on the 15th instant—Pillow's and Quitman's divisions followed closely, and Twigg's division, which was left till the next day, at Ayotla, in order to threaten the Penon and Mexicalcingo, and to deceive the enemy as long as practicable.

Twigg's, on the 16th, marching from Ayotla towards Chalco, (six miles) met a corps of more than double his numbers—cavalry and infantry—under General Valencia. Twigg halted, deployed into line, and by a few rounds from Captain Taylor's field battery, dispersed the enemy, killing or wounding many men and horses. No more molestation has been expected except a few random shots from guerrillas, on the heights; and the march of twenty-seven miles over a route deemed impracticable by the enemy, is now accomplished by all the corps—thanks to their indomitable zeal and physical prowess.

Arriving here the 18th, Worth's division and Harney's cavalry were pushed forward, in league to reconnoitre and to carry on to mask San Antonio, on the direct road to the capital. This village was found strongly defended by field works, heavy guns, and a numerous garrison. It could only be turned by infantry, to the left, over a field of water, and a narrow causeway, on our right, the ground was too boggy. It was soon ascertained by the daring engineers, Captain Mason and Lieut. Stevens and Tower, that the point could only be approached, by the front, over a narrow causeway, flanked with wet ditches of great depth. Worth was ordered not to attack, but to threaten and to mask the place.

The first shot fired from San Antonio (the 18th) killed Captain S. Thompson, 2d dragoons, a gallant officer, who was covering the operations with his company.

The same day a reconnaissance was commenced to the left of San Augustin, first over difficult mounds, and farther on, over the same field of volcanic rocks and lava which extends to the mountains some five miles from San Antonio towards Magdalena. This reconnaissance was continued, to-day, by Captain Lee, assisted by Lieutenants Beauregard and Tower, all of the engineers; who were joined in the afternoon by Major Smith of the same corps. Other divisions coming up, Pillow's was advanced to make a practicable road for heavy artillery, and Twigg's thrown farther in front, to cover that operation; for, by the morning record of yesterday, Captain Lee discovered a large corps of observation in that direction, with a detachment of which his supports of cavalry and foot under Captain Kearney and Lieutenant Colonel Graham, respectively, had a successful skirmish.

By three o'clock this afternoon, the advanced divisions came to a point where the new road could only be continued under the direct fire of 22 pieces of the enemy's artillery (most of them of large calibre) placed in a strong entrenched camp to oppose our operations, and surrounded by every advantage of ground, besides immense fields of cavalry and infantry, hourly reinforced from the city over an excellent road beyond the volcanic field, and consequently entirely beyond the reach of our artillery.

Arriving on the ground, an hour later, I found that Pillow's and Twigg's divisions had advanced to dislodge the enemy, picking their way (all of themselves towards the road, from the city and the enemy's left, and consequently entirely beyond the reach of our artillery, the camp and battery of 12 and 6-pounders, and Lieut. Callender's battery of mounted howitzers and rockets, had also, with great difficulty, been advanced within range of the entrenched camp. These batteries, most gallantly served, suffered much, in the course of the afternoon, from the enemy's successive attacks.

The battle, though mostly stationary, continued to rage, with great violence, until midnight. Brevet Brig. Gen. P. F. Smith's and Brevet Col. Riley's brigades (Twigg's division) supported by Brig. Generals Pierce and Cadwalader's brigades (Pillow's division) were more than three hours under a heavy fire of artillery and musketry along the almost impassable ravine in front and to the left of the entrenched camp. Besides the 22 pieces of artillery, the enemy's batteries defended closely by masses of infantry, and these again supported by clouds of cavalry at hand and hovering in view. Consequently no decided impression could be made by daylight on the enemy's most formidable position, he was, independent of the difficulty of the ravine and its position, unaccompanied by cavalry and artillery, could not advance in column without being moved down by the grape and canister of the batteries, nor advance in line without being ridden over by the enemy's numerous cavalry. All our troops, however, including and

Magruder's and Callender's last batteries, not only maintained the exposed positions early gained, but all attempted charges upon them, respectively—particularly on Riley's, twice closely engaged with cavalry in greatly superior numbers—were repulsed and punished.

From an eminence, soon after arriving near the scene, I observed the church and hamlet of Contreras (or Ansalda) on the road leading up from the capital, and, at the same time, the stream of reinforcements advancing by that road from the city. I ordered (through Major General Pillow) Col. Morgan, with his regiment, the 15th, till then held in reserve by Pillow, to move forward, and to occupy Contreras (or Ansalda) being persuaded, if occupied, it would arrest the enemy's reinforcements and ultimately decide the battle.

Riley was already on the enemy's left, in advance of the hamlet. A few minutes later, Brig. Gen. Shields, with his volunteer brigade (New York and South Carolina regiments—Quitman's division) coming up under my orders, from San Augustin, I directed Shields to follow and to sustain Morgan. These corps, over the extreme difficulties of ground—partially covered with a low forest of alders, reached Contreras, and found it (Shields's brigade) in position, observing the formidable movement from the capital, and much needing the timely reinforcement.

It was already dark, and the cold rain had begun to fall in torrents upon our unprotected troops for the hamlet, though a strong defensive position, could hold only the wounded men, the new regiments have little or nothing to eat in their haversacks. Wet, hungry, and without the possibility of sleep, all our gallant corps, I learn, are full of confidence, and only wait for the last hour of darkness to gain the positions whence to storm and carry the enemy's works.

Of the seven officers despatched, since about noon, from my position, opposite to the enemy's centre, and on the field of rocks and lava—to communicate instructions to the hamlet—one has succeeded in getting through these difficulties, increased by darkness. They have all returned. But the gallant and indefatigable Captain Lee, of the engineers, who has been constantly with the operating forces, is just in from Shields, Smith, Cadwalader, &c., to report he made against the centre of the entrenched camp towards morning.

Brig. Gen. Twigg, cut off, as above, from the part of his division beyond the impracticable ground, and Captain Lee, are gone under my orders, to collect the forces remaining on this side, with which to make the diversion about 3 o'clock this morning.

And here I will end this report, commenced at its date, and, in another, continue the narrative of the great events which they impend.

I have the honor to be, sir, with high respect, your most obedient servant,

WINFIELD SCOTT,
Secretary of War.

No. 32. (Duplicate.)

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
Tehuacan, at the Gates of Mexico,
August 28, 1847.

Sir: My report, No. 31, commenced in the night of the 19th instant, closed the operations of the army with that day.

The morning of the 20th opened with one series of unsurpassed achievements, all in view of the capital, and to which I shall give the general name—*the battle of Mexico*.

In the night of the 19th, Brigadier General Shields, P. F. Smith, and Cadwalader, and Col. Riley, with their brigades, and the 15th regiment, under Colonel Morgan, detached from Brigadier General Pierce's brigade—found themselves in and about the important position—the village, hamlet, or hacienda, called Indiferencia, Contreras, Ansalda, San Geronimo—about a mile nearer to the city than the enemy's entrenched camp, on the same road, towards the factory of Magdalena.

That camp had been, unexpectedly, our formidable point of attack the afternoon before, and we had now to take it, without the aid of cavalry or artillery, or to throw back our advanced corps upon the road from San Augustin to the city, and thence force a passage through San Antonio.

Accordingly, to meet contingencies, Major General Worth was ordered to leave, early in the morning of the 20th, one of his brigades to mask San Antonio and to march, with the other, six miles, to San Augustin, upon Contreras. A like destination was given to Brig. General Quitman and his remaining brigade in San Augustin—replacing, for the moment, the garrison of that important depot with Harney's brigade of cavalry, as horse could not pass over the intervening rocks, &c., to reach the field of battle.

A diversion for an earlier hour (daylight) had been arranged the night before, according to the suggestion of Brig. General Smith, received through the engineer, Captain Lee, who conveyed my orders to our troops remaining on the ground opposite to the enemy's centre—the point for a diversion or a real attack, as circumstances might allow.

Guided by Captain Lee, it proved the latter, under the command of Colonel Hanson of the 9th, having with that regiment and some companies of three others—the 8th, 12th, and 15th.

Shields, the senior officer at the hamlet, having arrived in the night, after Smith had arranged for the morning, a slightly walled-in position, the hamlet with his two regiments (South Carolina and New York volunteers) against ten times his numbers on the side of the city, including the slopes to his left, and in case the camp in his rear should be carried, to face about and cut off the flying enemy.

At 3 o'clock, a. m., the great movement commenced on the rear of the enemy's camp, Riley leading, followed successively by Cadwalader's and Smith's brigades—the latter temporarily under the orders of Major Dimick of the 1st artillery—the whole force being commanded by Smith, the senior in the general attack, and whose arrangements, skill, and gallantry always challenge the highest admiration.

The march was rendered tedious by the darkness, rain, and mud; but about sunrise, Riley, commanded by Lieutenant Tower's company, reached an elevation behind the enemy, where he precipitated his columns—stormed the entrenchments, planted his several colors upon the battlements, and carried the work—all in seventeen minutes.

Conducted by Lieutenant Beauregard, engineer, and Lieutenant Brink of Twigg's staff, both of whom, like Lieutenant Tower, had, in the night, twice reconnoitred the ground—Cadwalader brought up to the general assault, two of his regiments—the volunteers and the 11th; and at the appointed time, Colonel Hanson, with his temporary brigade, conducted by Captain Lee, engineer, not only made the movement across the deep ravine in his front advanced, over the abandoned guns (five pieces) much ammunition, and other public property.

lives many valleys from his destructive musketry.

In the meantime Smith's own brigade, under the temporary command of Major Dimick, following the movement of Riley and Cadwalader, discovered, opposite to and outside of the works, a long line of Mexican cavalry, drawn up in support. Dimick, having at his disposal, under Lieut. Smith, engineer, who had conducted the march, was ordered by Brig. Gen. Smith to charge, against a flank, routed the cavalry.

Shields, too, by the wise disposition of his brigade and gallant activity, contributed much to the general results. He held masses of cavalry and infantry, supported by artillery, in check below him, and captured hundreds, including one general (Mendoza) of those who fled from above.

I doubt whether a more brilliant or decisive victory—taking into view ground, artificial defenses, batteries, and the extreme disparity of numbers—without cavalry or artillery on our side—is to be found on record. Our corps directed against the entrenched camp, under Shields's brigade at the hamlet, we positively did not number over 2,500 troops and five or six guns, by sight, and since more certainly, by many captured documents and letters, that the enemy had actually engaged on the spot 7,000 men, with at least 12,000 more hovering within sight, and striking distance, on the 19th and 20th. All not killed or captured, now fled with precipitation.

Thus was the great victory of Contreras achieved: one road to the capital opened; 500 of the enemy killed; 813 prisoners, including among 88 officers, 4 generals; besides many arms, standards, 22 pieces of brass and iron cannon, and thousands of small arms and accoutrements; an immense quantity of shot, shells, powder, and cartridges; 700 pack mules, many horses, &c. &c.—all in our hands.

It is highly gratifying to find that, by skillful arrangement, and rapidity of execution, our losses, in killed and wounded, did not exceed, on our side, 60—among the former the brave Captain Charles Hanson, of the 7th infantry, slain for modesty, distinguished for gallantry, than for modesty, and piety. Lieut. J. P. Johnston, a young officer of the highest promise, was killed the evening before.

One of the most pleasing incidents of the victory is the capture, in the works, by Captain Dimick, 4th artillery, under Major Gardner, of the two brass 6-pounders, taken from another company of the same regiment, though without the loss of honor, at the glorious battle of Buena Vista—about which guns the whole regiment had mourned for so many long months! Coming up a little later, I had the happiness to join in the captured colors of the gallant 4th on the joyful occasion, and, indeed, the whole army sympathized in its just and exultant feelings.

The battle being won before the advancing brigades of Worth's and Quitman's divisions were in sight, both were ordered back to their late positions—Worth, to attack San Antonio in front, with his whole force, as soon as approached in the rear by Pillow's and Twigg's divisions—moving from Contreras, through San Angel and Coyacan, to the city, San Antonio, we knew that we should open another shorter and better, road to the capital, for ease and other reasons.

Accordingly, the two advanced divisions and Shields's brigade marched from Contreras, under the command of Major General Pillow, who was now joined by Brigadier General Pierce. General Pierce of his division, personally directed, out of activity, late the evening before, by a severe but received from the fall of his horse.

After giving necessary orders on the field, in the midst of prisoners and trophies, and sending Brigadier General Pierce's brigade of cavalry, left at San Augustin, to join my main army, I personally followed Pillow's movement.

Arriving at Coyacan, two miles by a cross road, from the rear of San Antonio, I first detached Captain Lee, engineer, with Capt. Kearney's troop, 1st dragoons, supported by the rifle brigade, under Major Loring, to reconnoitre the position, and then detached Pillow, with one of his brigades, (the 15th), to make the attack upon it, in concert with Worth, on the opposite side.

At the same time, by another road to the left, Lieutenant Stevens, of the engineers, supported by Lieutenant G. W. Smith's company of sappers and miners of the same corps, was sent to reconnoitre the strongly fortified church or convent of San Pablo, a little further to the left, one mile off. Twigg's, with one of his brigades, (Smith's—less the rifle) and Captain Taylor's rifle battery, were ordered to follow and to attack the convent. Major Smith, senior engineer, was detached to concert with Twigg's the mode and means of attack, and Twigg's other brigade (Riley's) I soon ordered up to support him.

Next (that all in ten minutes) I sent 14 regiments (just able to be put in the rear of the 15th) (Pillow's division) under his late aide, Captain Taylor, a third road, a little further to the left, to attack the enemy's right and rear, in order to favor the movement upon the convent, and cut off the retreat towards the capital. And, finally, Shields's senior brigade to Pierce, with Quitman's division, was ordered to follow Pierce closely, and to take the command of our left flank, all these movements were made with the utmost alacrity by our gallant troops and commanders.

Finding that at Coyacan, from which we were longed to the brigade of Brigadier General Smith, who closely followed the whole attack in front, with his habitual coolness and ability, and had entered the city, the 2d and 7th infantry, under Captain T. Morris and Lieutenant Col. Livingston, respectively, vigorously engaged the right of the work and part of its rear. At the moment the rifles, belonging to Smith's brigade, were in support of Brig. Gen. Shields on our extreme left, and the 4th artillery, acting as infantry, under Major Gardner, belonging to Riley's brigade, had been left in charge of the camp trophies, &c., at Contreras. Twigg's division, at Contreras, had thus been deprived of the services of two of its most gallant and effective regiments.

The immediate results of this victory were: the capture of 7 field-pieces, some ammunition, 1 color, 3 generals, and 1,343 prisoners, including other officers.

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The forcing of San Antonio was the second brilliant event of the day.

Worth's division, being soon reunited in hot pursuit, he was joined by Major General Pillow, who, marching from Coyacan and discovering that San Antonio had been carried, immediately turned to the left, according to my instructions, and, though much impeded by ditches and swamps, hastened to the attack of Contreras.

The hamlet or scattered houses, bearing this name, presented, besides the fortified convent, a strong field-work (*tete de pont*) with regular bastions and curtains, at the head of a bridge leading from the road passes from San Antonio to the capital.

The whole remaining forces of Mexico—some 10,000 men—cavalry, artillery, and infantry, collected from every quarter—were now in, on the banks or within supporting distance of the works, and seemed resolved to make a last and desperate stand; for if beaten here, the federal defenses at the gates of the city—four miles off—would be to be found on record. Our corps directed against the entrenched camp, under Shields's brigade at the hamlet, we positively did not number over 2,500 troops and five or six guns, by sight, and since more certainly, by many captured documents and letters, that the enemy had actually engaged on the spot 7,000 men, with at least 12,000 more hovering within sight, and striking distance, on the 19th and 20th. All not killed or captured, now fled with precipitation.

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It has been stated that, some two hours and a half before, Pierce's division, followed closely by the volunteer brigade—both under the command of Shields—had been detached to our left to turn the enemy's works, to prevent the escape of the enemy's numerous corps from the rear, upon and around our left.

The forcing of San Antonio was the second brilliant event of the day.

Worth's division, being soon reunited in hot pursuit, he was joined by Major General Pillow, who, marching from Coyacan and discovering that San Antonio had been carried, immediately turned to the left, according to my instructions, and, though much impeded by ditches and swamps, hastened to the attack of Contreras.

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Worth's division, being soon reunited in hot pursuit, he was joined by Major General Pillow, who, marching from Coyacan and discovering that San Antonio had been carried, immediately turned to the left, according to my instructions, and, though much impeded by ditches and swamps, hastened to the attack of Contreras.

The hamlet or scattered houses, bearing this name, presented, besides the fortified convent, a strong field-work (*tete de pont*) with regular bastions and curtains, at the head of a bridge leading from the road passes from San Antonio to the capital.

The whole remaining forces of Mexico—some 10,000 men—cavalry, artillery, and infantry, collected from every quarter—were now in, on the banks or within supporting distance of the works, and seemed resolved to make a last and desperate stand; for if beaten here, the federal defenses at the gates of the city—four miles off—would be to be found on record. Our corps directed against the entrenched camp, under Shields's brigade at the hamlet, we positively did not number over 2,500 troops and five or six guns, by sight, and since more certainly, by many captured documents and letters, that the enemy had actually engaged on the spot 7,000 men, with at least 12,000 more hovering within sight, and striking distance, on the 19th and 20th. All not killed or captured, now fled with precipitation.

Thus was the great victory of Contreras achieved: one road to the capital opened; 500 of the enemy killed; 813 prisoners, including among 88 officers, 4 generals; besides many arms, standards, 22 pieces of brass and iron cannon, and thousands of small arms and accoutrements; an immense quantity of shot, shells, powder, and cartridges; 700 pack mules, many horses, &c. &c.—all in our hands.

It is highly gratifying to find that, by skillful arrangement, and rapidity of execution, our losses, in killed and wounded, did not exceed, on our side, 60—among the former the brave Captain Charles Hanson, of the 7th infantry, slain for modesty, distinguished for gallantry, than for modesty, and piety. Lieut. J. P. Johnston, a young officer of the highest promise, was killed the evening before.

One of the most pleasing incidents of the victory is the capture, in the works, by Captain Dimick, 4th artillery, under Major Gardner, of the two brass 6-pounders, taken from another company of the same regiment, though without the loss of honor, at the glorious battle of Buena Vista—about which guns the whole regiment had mourned for so many long months! Coming up a little later, I had the happiness to join in the captured colors of the gallant 4th on the joyful occasion, and, indeed, the whole army sympathized in its just and exultant feelings.

The battle being won before the advancing brigades of Worth's and Quitman's divisions were in sight, both were ordered back to their late positions—Worth, to attack San Antonio in front, with his whole force, as soon as approached in the rear by Pillow's and Twigg's divisions—moving from Contreras, through San Angel and Coyacan, to the city, San Antonio, we knew that we should open another shorter and better, road to the capital, for ease and other reasons.

Accordingly, the two advanced divisions and Shields's brigade marched from Contreras, under the command of Major General Pillow, who was now joined by Brigadier General Pierce. General Pierce of his division, personally directed, out of activity, late the evening before, by a severe but received from the fall of his horse.

After giving necessary orders on the field, in the midst of prisoners and trophies, and sending Brigadier General Pierce's brigade of cavalry, left at San Augustin, to join my main army, I personally followed Pillow's movement.

Arriving at Coyacan, two miles by a cross road, from the rear of San Antonio, I first detached Captain Lee, engineer, with Capt. Kearney's troop, 1st dragoons, supported by the rifle brigade, under Major Loring, to reconnoitre the position, and then detached Pillow, with one of his brigades, (the 15th), to make the attack upon it, in concert with Worth, on the opposite side.

At the same time, by another road to the left, Lieutenant Stevens, of the engineers,

That notorious abortionist, Madam Restell, of N. York; has been convicted of misdemeanor and sentenced to the penitentiary for one year. Subsequent to the sentence Judge Edmonds granted a stay of proceedings.

OXFORD DEMOCRAT.

PARIS, NOVEMBER 23, 1847.

"The Union must be preserved."

Congressional Convention of the First Congressional District.
The Democratic Republicans of that portion of the First Congressional District composed of the Towns and Plantations in Oxford County, are requested to meet by their Delegates at LOVELL VILLAGE, on Monday, the 13th day of DECEMBER NEXT, at TEN O'CLOCK, A. M., to make choice of a DELEGATE to the Democratic National Convention for the selection of Candidates for President and Vice President of the U. S. to be supported by the Democratic party at the approaching Presidential election.

Per Order of the Committee.
Nov. 8, 1847.

"THE MIND IS OMNIPOTENT—IS IMMORTAL."

In looking abroad upon the circle of duties which devolve upon us as rational members of society, we see none demanding more attention or possessing more intrinsic importance, than that of properly educating our youth.

That the duty we owe to our posterity to preserve and hand down unimpaired and unimpaired the invaluable institutions we received from our fathers, is an imperative one, needs no argument to prove. Equally imperative, and a thousand times more important, for the preservation of those institutions, is it that those into whose hands their destiny falls, should have the requisite training for the proper understanding of their nature.

Our views on education are various, and were we to subject them to severe analysis we should find them about as erroneous as various.

A belief that some men are born to be great luminaries, burning and shining in the intellectual firmament, while others are subject to a pre-ordained inexorable destiny to occupy inferior places, to be lesser stars, or even opaque bodies, affording no light at all, has led many to distrust the power God has given them and made them set down contentedly in ignominious ignorance, believing their very ignorance a special decree of Providence.

This doctrine of *inane inequality* of mental capacity, carried to the extent it has been, and applied to the masses, while all great mental capacity has been supposed to exist only with the aristocracy of birth, has been the cause of more intolerance, indifference to mental cultivation, want of effort and of success, than all other causes put together—it is the bane, the paralyzing upas of intellectual effort, and inevitably leads to mental sloth and hopelessness.

Our first effort in emancipating the mind should be directed against the belief in such doctrines. The musty old saying, yet true notwithstanding, "what man has done man may do," is a great matter for our cause, and should be adopted as a polar star for our guidance.

Until this false impression is done away with, we can hope for no determined persevering effort to rise from the low level our want of energy and lack of confidence has reduced us.

We hazard the assertion unqualified, that every man possessing common sense, if he were to set himself to the work of investigating the human mind, for the purpose of ascertaining its powers and capabilities, take good care to thoroughly scrutinize the evidence upon which his opinions were founded, and taking nothing for granted which can be proved or disproved, would in all cases come to the conclusion, that the difference in one's talents consisted not so much in the talents themselves, as in the cultivation of their mental powers, and that there was no hereditary aristocracy of talent, but on the contrary every man's greatness or littleness was dependent on no destiny so much as his own exertions, and these in accordance with the great laws of his being, and surrounding circumstances.

Another great error in our ideas of education is, that a person cannot be educated out of the venerated walls of the University. This has been an obstacle of no despicable magnitude, but happily the progress of mental improvement has fully developed its falsity, and the public are fast coming to the conclusion, that all the really useful obtained there, can be elsewhere obtained, and much time be saved, which used to be spent in learning what took a portion of their lives to unlearn. A few bright examples of what could be obtained without setting foot into the cloistered halls, led men to open their eyes in regard to the supremacy and infallibility of the University. They also learned that talent and education was not designed solely for the few, the rich, and that the masses were not heirs of ignorance and oppression. And this knowledge will continue to increase, as our public schools are improved, and the means of popular education and general information are increased.

Every man's destiny is, in a measure, in his own hands; he is capable of becoming great and directing the destiny of his country, or of occupying an equally useful station in private life, and possessing as every one does the capability of being the instrument of much good or evil to his species, it will readily be seen of how much importance it is to have these capabilities properly directed; hence the necessity of having a knowledge not only of all the laws of creation and of ourselves, but of all that should govern us in our various pursuits in order to success, and of instilling right principles in the first openings of intellect, when the mind is uncontaminated with vice, but comes fresh from the hand of its creator, susceptible of any impression, and ready to drink in good or evil, as it is presented.

Mexico.—The Washington Union says— "A letter has been received in this city from an officer in Vera Cruz, dated Nov. 3, from which the following is an extract:—

"A friend of mine received a letter yesterday from the brother-in-law of Santa Anna, dated Orizaba, the 1st inst., stating that this unfortunate man (as he calls him) was there; that he was in much distress, and his life in danger; that he had parted with his last dollar; had sold his carriage and every thing to satisfy the escort that came with him. There is some talk about about his being placed under the protection of our troops at some retired place, until things are got more calm.

"Troops are fast coming in, and the roads are at once to be opened, when fresh importations from Europe will augment our revenue. Some European cargoes are now expected."

Telegraph news from New York for the Boston Post, dated Thursday, 9 O'clock P. M., says— "The correspondent of the New Orleans Times writes that news had reached Tampico that Santa Anna had embarked at that port in a British steamer.

Col. Gates, hearing that Santa Anna was near Tampico, tried hard to catch him, but failed. This news was generally credited at Tampico.

In consequence of the fever, all troops arriving at Vera Cruz are sent into the interior."

Two engagements with the enemy had occurred near Puebla, in which the Americans had fifteen killed; the Mexican loss was one hundred. The Mexican forces were commanded by General Torrejon.

General Scott has commenced a permanent occupation of the national road between Vera Cruz and the capital. A garrison of 750 men has been established at the National Bridge; another of 1,200, under Gen. Cushing, at Jalapa; a third, of 2,000, under General Lane, at Puebla. General Lane was quartered in the heart of the city.

A civil war has broken out among the gherillas, which originated in a quarrel between Jaranto and Canizales, which resulted in a severe battle, in which the Jaranto band was victorious. Thirty lives were lost in this fight.

Captain Walker, the intrepid Texas ranger, has been killed. He was struck, almost at the same time, by two balls, while in the streets of Matamoros—one hit him in the head, and the other in the breast. As he fell, he exclaimed, "Boys, forward, and don't flinch a foot; I know I'm dying, but don't give way."

General Cushing is said to have succeeded, by mild but decisive measures, in quelling the disturbance in the Massachusetts regiment. Perfect order and improved discipline now prevail.

SUDDEN DEATH. Cyrus Cobb, Esq., of Norway, was found, on Thursday morning last, dead in his barn, supposed in consequence of a fall. He had gone to the barn for the purpose of feeding his cattle, and it is supposed ascended to the upper scaffold from whence he fell to the floor, fracturing his skull and breaking his neck. He was a highly respected member of the community, a good citizen, and an honest man, and his loss will be deeply felt and regretted. He was about 60 years of age.

THANKSGIVING.—There are twenty States and Territories in which the people are invited to eat pumpkin pies and be thankful next Thursday, namely—Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Florida, New York, Michigan, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Missouri, Indiana, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Kentucky, New Jersey, Ohio, Delaware, Wisconsin, District of Columbia, Illinois, and Georgia. What a slaughter there will be in Turkey-edom, and how the chicken fivers will suffer on that eventful day!

Mr. Clay talks of introducing eight or nine millions of Mexicans "to assist in governing our republic." A mistake in terms. If the Mexicans are introduced at all, it will be to "assist in governing" themselves; and that all mankind have a right to do.

MASONIC.—The Boston Post says—"We understand that ex-governor Dunlap, of Maine, is to be installed as general grand high priest, of the general grand chapter, of the United States, in this city on the 30th inst. The grand chapter of Maine will accompany him. This appointment is considered by the initiated as highly complimentary to Maine."

ANOTHER MANUFACTURING CITY.—A company of wealthy capitalists, principally of Boston, have purchased the falls at Lewiston, and from six to seven hundred acres of land adjoining, for the purpose of establishing there a new manufacturing city. Mr. Boyden, the chief engineer, and five assistants, are now on the ground completing the survey of the new city, laying out streets, &c.

The plan is to run a canal from the falls down the river; and some idea may be formed of the value of that privilege, from the fact that the head of water is over forty feet, and factories will be built for a long distance down the river, if required.

Some people commit suicide with pistols and laudanum; others choose alcohol and tobacco, while fashionable young ladies resort to tight lacing and thin slippers.

With the utmost pleasure we would recommend to our Mechanical friends, the Scientific American, published in New York, by Munroe & Co. It is the best paper of the kind we ever saw, and what is uncommon in a mechanical paper, it is always rich, spirited and full of thrillingly interesting articles. Specimens may be seen at this office.

OFFICIAL VOTE FOR REPRESENTATIVES TO CONGRESS.

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INFLAMMATORY SORE THROAT OR QUINCY. is an acute and sometimes highly dangerous complaint, and should be attended to in the early stage of the malady, as the slightest delay is often attended with serious consequences. Wright's Indian Vegetable Pills of the North American College of Health, are the best medicine in the world for the cure of an inflammatory sore throat

